

ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Sports activities flourished during 1981 common to all post-Olympic years, as promising athletes aspired to compete in the 1984 Summer and Winter Olympics, and seasoned athletes attempted to maintain their class. Now that 1981 is fast becoming history, we congratulate all the sports personalities of this year.

Sports greats

World chess champion Anatoly Karpov, of the Soviet Union, world middle distance running record holder and 1980 Olympic winner Sebastian Coe, of Britain, Wimbledon tennis champion John McEnroe, of the USA, five-time European swimming champion and world record holder, 1980 Olympic champion Ute Goveniger, of the GDR, gymnastics absolute world champion Olga Bicherova, of the USSR and world javelin record holder Antoaneta Tudorova, of Bulgaria, were voted the sports personalities of the year in a TASS survey among 24 world and national agencies from Europe, America, Asia and Australia.

Altogether 44 athletes from 17 countries were named.

World chess champion Anatoly Karpov, of Moscow, has been named the best Soviet sports-

man of the year. The traditional New Year poll was sponsored jointly by the Federation of Sports Journalists and the USSR Sports Committee and involved employees from newspapers, magazines, news agencies, television and radio. It is the seventh time that Karpov is named among the ten best sportsmen of the year. Journalists named him sportsman No. 1 in 1978, after he won the chess championship in Baguio, the Philippines.

The other sportsmen of the year are: 2. Vladislav Tretyak, Moscow, ice hockey; 3. Ramaz Shengeliya, Tbilisi, football; 4. Yuri Korolyov, Vladimir, gymnastics; 5. Yurik Vardanyan, Leningrad, weightlifting; 6. Sergei Sukhoruchenkov, Khabarovsk, cycling; 7. Olga Bicherova, Moscow, gymnastics; 8. Vladimir Parfenovich, Minsk, kayak; 9. Konstantin Volkov,

Irkutsk, polo vaulting; and 10. Vladimir Salnikov, Leningrad, swimming.

The journalists have named 73 athletes from 21 sports.

Blokhin makes top side

Soviet international Oleg Blokhin, from Kiev Dynamo, has been selected for a symbolic world soccer side in a survey conducted by the Hungarian "Népszport" among football writers from 10 European nations.

The side includes Arconada, of Spain, Keltz, of the FRG, Pezzy, of Austria, Passarella, of Argentina, Junior, of Brazil, Britner, of the FRG, Nyilas, of Hungary, Zico, of Brazil, Runmeige, of the FRG, Argentinian Madadona, and Blokhin.

Best tennis-players of the country

European finalist Yelena Yeliseyenko, from Donetsk, and Muscovite Konstantin Pugaev have been voted tops of the men's and women's national top ten.

PETRUSYOVA IN FINE SHAPE

Natalya Petrusyova, Olympic champion and world and European top allrounder, notched up 178,544 points to win the nationwide competition in memory of late "Soviet Sport" newspaper Editor-in-Chief Nikolai Kiselyov.

On the second day she did brilliantly in the 1,000 m in

1 min 22.42 sec, Olga Pleshkova from Moscow won the 5,000 m in 8:07.42 and came second best overall (101,104 points).

Dmitry Buchkayov was the top male allrounder with 170,403 points, while Muscovite Sergei Khebnikov took the sprinting title amassing 152,935 points.

BASKETBALL: KIEV STROITEL LEADS

Kiev Stroitel have captured the lead in the national men's championship, beating hosts Dynamo, 91-63, at the Tbilisi Palace of Sport.

Moscow's Central Army Club, which only recently shared the

lead with Stroitel, went down to Moscow Dynamo, 91-92, interestingly enough with eight minutes to go in the second half CAC led by 20 points, but Dynamo came forcefully back and deservedly won.

SPEEDWAY STARS IN THE OFFING

The individual world speedway championship getting afloat in two weeks' time will be the most acid test for our racers, national chief coach Sergei Starykh told a TASS correspondent. The USSR has won 14 individual titles in 10 such championships to date, he pointed out, but recently we have had to hold back the growing challenge of Swedish and Czechoslovak competitors, as well as Italy, Britain and some other countries.

The first world championship

elimination trials will be held on January 9-10, in Eindhoven, Holland, the next, on February 6-7, in Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy and third, a week later in West Berlin.

The first semifinal is scheduled for February 20-21, in Stockholm, the second, on March 6-7, in Assen, Holland, with the finals due in Inzell, FRG, on March 13-14. No more than three racers from the same country will be admitted to the finals.

The USSR, thrice world team winners, will also enter the team world championship due on February 27-28, at Kallin outside Moscow.

ICE HOCKEY SNAPSHOTS

In Winnipeg the USSR junior team went down to their Canadian counterparts, 0-7, in their third game at the world championship.

Canada and Czechoslovakia now share the lead with six points each.

The USSR has beaten Sweden, 7-3, in a friendly at Groningen. Holland, Khomutov made a hat-trick. Varnakov scored twice and Skvortsov and Kozhevnikov once each for the USSR.

In Frankfurt am Main the USSR second team defeated the FRG, 7-2, while Moscow Spartak downed hosts Davos, 10-4, in the Spengler Cup in Davos.

NORWAY AWAITING GUESTS

The organizing committee of the 1982 world skiing championship in Holmenkollen said 380 sportsmen and 285 officials from 26 countries have sent in their applications, and 1,100 press, radio and TV correspondents are expected so far to cover the event.

Our next issue No. 2 (316) will come out on January 5, 1982.

By air - from Moscow

INFORMATION

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Unreliable partner

TASS reports that flying in the face of facts, the US president groundlessly ascribes to the Soviet Union the responsibility for the introduction of martial law in Poland. He alleges that for months "the Russians have been demanding repressive action", exerting "pressure on Polish leadership", now "they are openly supporting reprisals in Poland". This seems to form a kind of logic to the American president, making it viable in his mind to distort, again, the position of the Soviet Union. This position has, needless to say, been explained many times to the USA.

In his statement R. Reagan mentions the exchange of letters with Leonid Brezhnev, distorting the meaning of the latter's message. What did Leonid

(Continued on page 2)

FACTS AND EVENTS

According to official estimates, 2,379 people died and over 6,500 were injured in Lebanon last year, during Israeli attacks and military provocations by separatists in southern Lebanon, and acts of terrorism committed by Tel Aviv's sponsored groups.

China's population has topped 1,000 million, the Hong Kong paper "Xin Wanbao" reports.

Five persons were killed and another 249 were injured, when fireworks and firearms were used to "celebrate" the arrival of the New Year in Italy.

A council for national security, set up in Bangladesh under the head of government of Abdur Sattar, will examine the use of the army in the country's social and economic development.

The British Trade Union Congress will launch an anti-smoking campaign this year, this is the decision of the Congress General Council, which attempted to ban advertisements connected with tobacco products.

Winter holiday time



Over 80,000 Moscow schoolchildren are taking their winter holidays in country camps and rest homes. Another 6,000 have taken off around the country by plane, rail, bus and ship. One standard feature of such holidays are New Year fairs and balls held for school senior formers. Upholding tradition, nearly 500,000 young Muscovites and visitors to the Soviet capital attended the spectacular pageant held at the Kremlin Palace of Congresses.

COURT RULING REVIEWED

Washington, Vladimir Polovchak, 14, will be reunited with his parents, was the decision of the Illinois court of appeal overruling an earlier ruling by a lower court in Chicago, forcibly separating the boy from his parents.

The Chicago hearings were

held a year ago, after Vladimir was abducted from his father and mother, who decided to return home to the Soviet Union.

In violation of American laws and parental rights the Chicago judges transferred Vladimir to the custody of the Illinois state.

FRIENDSHIP IS LANGUAGE OF PEACE

The relations between the Soviet and American peoples should be based on friendship and

mutual understanding, not alienation and confrontation. Many ordinary Americans were worried and baffled by President Reagan's economic discrimination measures against the Soviet Union, stressed members of a delegation of US cultural figures who were in the USSR on the eve of the New Year. Their programme included trips arranged by the Sputnik International Youth Travel Bureau, and the American Friendship Ambassadors travel firm, participation in the "Russian Winter" festival, sightseeing around Moscow, and discussion of co-operation prospects of the two travel organizations.

This is not our first visit to the USSR, and we are glad to say we have made many friends here. American firm president H. Morgan told his correspondent. The Friendship Ambassadors, which helps in the exchange of artistic youth groups from our two countries, has long-standing and firm contacts with Sputnik.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS TO SOVIET PEOPLE

A message of greetings sent by the CPSU Central Committee, Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of the USSR to the Soviet people says in part:

1981 presented us with some difficulties such as the bad weather and escalating international tension, which is why it is all the more heartening that we have made great advances in the building of a communist society.

Our wide-ranging social programme is now implemented on a planned basis. Millions of people have moved to new flats, the state is giving increased aid to families with children, to working mothers and newwives, pensions are being raised, more consumer goods are produced and services expanded.

Two goals remain of critical concern for us: the building of communism and the preservation of peace on earth. These

goals are inextricably linked, and the Party and government are doing all they can to secure a peaceful life for Soviet people; they are consistently carrying out policies of friendship and cooperation among nations, and vigorously rebuffing the designs of reaction forces. They are taking vigorous moves in halting the arms race and promoting disarmament. The Soviet Union believes there is no more humane and noble task than working to protect humanity from a thermonuclear disaster.

We send our cordial greetings and wishes of peace and happiness to our foreign comrades and friends, people in socialist countries, and to all peoples fighting against imperialism, reaction, and the arms race—a lunatic and hazardous squandering of mankind's material and spiritual potential, to promote peace and social progress.

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is entering its 60th year and is brimming with optimism and creative vigour.

NUCLEAR PLANT GAINING MOMENTUM

The commencing operation of the third unit in the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, of the Ukraine, coincided with the arrival of the New Year. The building crews and assemblymen took only three years to complete the unit thus markedly reducing the time necessary for such operations.

The plant has generated over 46,000 million kWh to date, and another two units are scheduled to come into service in the current five-year-plan period.

DANUBE NAVIGATION-82

"From the Alps to the Black Sea" is the inscription upon the ships belonging to the Soviet-Danube shipping company, whose route begins from the West German town of Passau. Shortly before New Year's Eve two Soviet passenger liners, the "Ukraine" and the "Moldavia", set out from the Vienna river port inaugurating the navigation of the Danube for 1982.

Remarkably enough, there was only one passenger aboard the ship, which first set out from Vienna back in 1960, whereas 14,000 passengers travelled on the Danube last season.

Large shipments rode too—over 110,000 tonnes in 1980 to 500,000 tonnes last year.

Round the Soviet Union

THREE MILLION TONNES OF HIGH-QUALITY ANTHRACITE A YEAR IS TO BE PRODUCED BY THE DOLZHANSKAYA KAPITALNAYA MINE, WHICH IS OPERATING IN THE DONBAS COAL FIELD IN THE UKRAINE. The galleries at the depth of more than 700 metres have efficient coal-extracting complexes and combines, and the coal and rock are transported by belt conveyors and diesel carriers. There are three wide shafts reaching the coal seams, with 30 kilometres of connecting horizontal tunnels. The industrial establishment includes housing for the employees, clinics for preventive treatment, a vocational school and a number of creches, kindergartens and schools.

SPORTS PANORAMA-82

Soviet USSR Sports Committee executive V.G. Baranovskiy about the 1982 sporting calendar in the USSR.

The recent sporting events, covered by 200,000 physical training centres and sport clubs nationwide, including the country held in cities, regions, autonomous

units and Union republics will now be followed by such spectacles as the Winter Tourney of Soviet Nations and the 2nd Summer All-Union Youth Games.

The tournament finale, highlight of the new year, are set (Continued on page 8)



Anatoly Karpov (USSR).



Antoaneta Tudorova (Bulgaria).



John McEnroe (USA).



Sebastian Coe (Britain).



Olga Bicherova (USSR).



Ute Goveniger (GDR).

ATTENTION, SUBSCRIBERS ABROAD

DEAR READERS,

"MN Information" comes out on Tuesdays and Saturdays, and offers in brief the latest information on events in the USSR and in the world, reported by TASS and foreign newsmen. Nothing short of the material carried in the editions of both "Moscow News" and "MN Information" gives you a full idea of life in the Soviet Union for the week.

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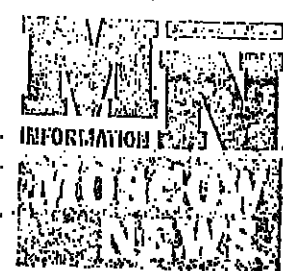
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Ghana: FOLLOWING THE COUP

London. J. Rawlings, head of a provisional military council which gained control in Ghana during the military coup, suspended the present constitution, banned political parties, and dissolved parliament and the state council, that normally consulted the president on policy matters. The former president H. Limann and the members of his cabinet were removed. Speaking on Ghana radio, Rawlings announced that the country's supreme power body was now the provisional

military council and that Ghana would respect its international obligations with its neighbouring countries. On foreign policy, he stressed is that of non-alignment.

The time has come for us, he continued, to restructure our society in a truly democratic way ensuring the people's participation in decision making. He condemned the former Ghanaian rulers, who, in his words, were corrupted, and urged the population to help the new powers in the country's reorganisation.

SECRET

SOCIETIES ACTIVE IN MALAYSIA

Kuala Lumpur. Secret societies are being actively set up in Malaysia by ethnic Chinese, the Kuang, who are conducting armed robberies, blackmail, smuggling and drug pushing. A report by A. Rahman, director of the criminal department,

stresses that police in the state of Johore arrested 98 persons attending the secret meeting of such a society, 72 of them were Singapore citizens, a clear sign of the growing links between the Malaysian mainland and underground business in Singapore, Rahman pointed out.

Dissatisfaction with Thatcher's policies

London. A recent poll held by the "Guardian" newspaper claimed that 70 per cent of the public felt that the Tories went back on their election promises during the 1979 campaign.

Most of them disapproved M. Thatcher's New Year address that maintained the worst was over for the British economy. In fact 65 per cent of those polled believed that the country's

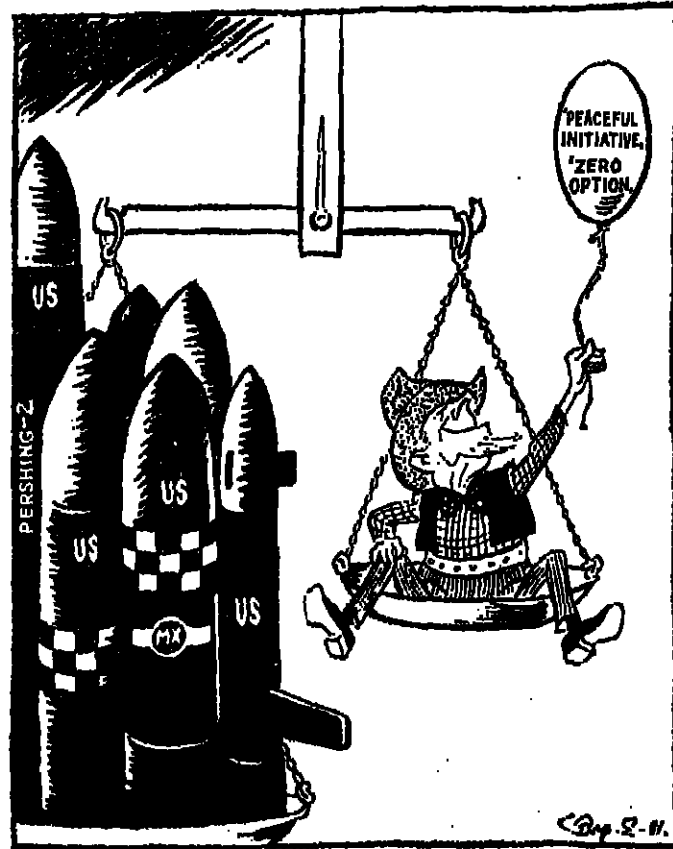
economic situation in the new year could remain the same or even worsen.

The survey also asked for recommendations to the prime minister for the best measures to be taken in the new year. The answers were quite revealing, most of them suggested that Thatcher quit her post or perhaps leave the country altogether.

SCHMIDT REFUSES TO BACK SANCTIONS

New York. FRG Chancellor H. Schmidt told "The New York Times" he would not join in the US administration's economic sanctions, believing them ineffective.

The chancellor stressed he was convinced that in the given situation in Poland its government did what it considered most beneficial for the nation.



Drawing by Boris Elmanov

NEW GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED IN EGYPT

Cairo. A republican decree issued in Cairo, concerning the formation of a new Egyptian government led by Prime Minister A. F. Mohi el-Din, announced 14 new appointments. H. Abu Basma is the new interior minister; while the former interior minister M. Nassef

is retained the post of deputy premier responsible for the services and local power bodies. No changes were made to the posts of foreign minister and defence minister. However, shifts were felt in the economy-oriented ministries.

QUOTATION OF THE DAY

"Reagan's policy is not simply arrogant, it is dangerous. He does not distinguish between issues of international defence and single country situation, for instance, Poland. One must admit that the Russians have taken a more constructive stand on this issue. When the war in Vietnam was still at its height, they started talks on a SALT-I treaty, back in 1971. Now they could easily find a fitting reason to reject Reagan's policies. One needs only a brief look at USA's Latin American backyard, where leftists are being mercilessly exterminated."

From "Het Frije Volk" (Holland)

Unreliable partner

(Continued from page 1)

Brezhnev in fact suggest? He called on the United States to cease interfering in the internal affairs of the Polish People's Republic, which is a sovereign state. This interference has been continuing for a long period of time and in a variety of ways.

In his letter, Leonid Brezhnev rejected the American attitudes towards solving the Polish situation and deciding the line that the Polish society should develop. He emphasized that the social system in Poland was chosen not by Washington, or Moscow, nor any other capital, but by the Poles themselves. No one has the right to dictate over Polish leadership concerning Polish internal matters.

Commenting on R. Reagan's hints of negative steps that the US government could follow in its relations with the USSR, Leonid Brezhnev noted that American administration had already attempted to undermine the positive achievements gained through considerable efforts in relations between our two countries created under the previous administrations. If any further deterioration in the Soviet-American relations should occur, the responsibility rests with the United States.

The set of intentions against the USSR, which is now in wide use, is needed by the US president in order to justify his recently announced measures further deteriorating Soviet-American relations.

Disregarding international law and its commitments to other countries, the United States shows itself to be an unreliable, if not whimsical partner. In this context, R. Reagan's words concerning America's desire to maintain constructive and mutually beneficial relations with the Soviet Union are empty.

The behaviour of the American administration is the main reason why the problems between states are not solved to everyone's benefit, promoting better international security, made by the US president and other American officials reveal that they are loath to part with their methods of interference, pressure, sanctions, and embargoes. These are policies which in this day and age deserve to be confined to the archives.

TRACING A WAR CRIMINAL

Paris. France's chief prosecutor's office has issued a warrant for the arrest of Touvier, a police chief from Lyons, during the fascist occupation of France. Touvier provided Hitler's army with lists of French patriots, many of whom were executed or sent to the Nazi "death camps". Earlier he was twice sentenced to death in absentia by the Lyons and Chambéry courts.

FACTS and EVENTS

Men have gained an average of five kilos in body weight over the past 25 years, while the later sex has retained their body weight. Such statistics were concluded by a group of researchers at the British civil aviation department after making special tests.

Six white mercenaries who were involved in an abortive coup d'état in the Seychelles, but November will be sent for trial charged with forcibly plotting to change the state system, on offence carrying the death penalty.

FACTS and EVENTS

The Organization of African Unity will decide whether to boycott the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles or not. This has been announced in Addis Ababa by the head of the Organization's Science and Technology Department dealing with decolonization.

According to "Time" magazine, the National Conference of the American Catholic Bishops has demanded that the newest American nuclear submarine should be renamed. The bishops declare that the present name, *Corpus Christi*, is sacrilegious.

The parliaments of Senegal and Gambia have voted to ratify the treaty uniting their two countries into a single state — Senegambia.

PEOPLE

A resident of Bangkok, Wat Chutapa, 82, recently graduated from the sociology department of a university.

He first entered higher school 67 years ago, but was drafted into the Navy when World War One broke out. Later he went into commerce, but never stopped dreaming of gaining higher education.

Islamic judges suspended in Iran

Tehran. A large number of Islamic judges and prosecutors have been relieved of their posts, following the examination of numerous complaints from the Iranian population. Reporting this in an interview to the newspaper "Ettela'at", M. Mostafaei, member of the Supreme Juridical Council, admitted that innocent people were detained in cases of other abuses.

Certain judges were dismissed following orders from the Iranian leadership ending "unauthorized confiscations". These confiscations were carried out by local executive and legal agencies, who continued agrarian reform and distributed among the landless peasants lands previously belonging to feudals. The implementation of this reform has presently been frozen by parliament in the wake of demands by the leading representatives from the clergy.

CLIMBING CRIME RATE IN CHINA

Economic crimes involving abuse of privileged and high positions are seriously damaging China's economic interests, writes the "Zhongguo Caobao" paper. Economic crimes, the paper continues, have been mounting in the past few years, most of them involving abuse of power by people in high positions.

France plans nuclear testing

Paris. France is constructing a site on the Fangatua Atoll in the Pacific for underground nuclear testing. France-Press states that large nuclear charges will be exploded in this location.

The first such explosions on the atoll were conducted in 1975, but later in the year they were moved to Mururoa Atoll, also located in the Pacific, west of Australia.



Supported by the United States, the ruling circles in Tel Aviv continue to contribute to the atmosphere of terror in occupied Arab territories. Armed Israeli invaders continue to kill women, children and elderly people in cold blood. Tel Aviv uses terror in order to break the will of the Palestinian people fighting for their due rights.

In the photo: Israeli soldiers in the streets of Beit Lahm.

Science and technology

A USEFUL TYPHOON

An unusual 15-metre tower is being built south of Madrid. In its interior a typhoon-like condition will be simulated to turn the turbines. The credit for such an idea belongs to the Spanish engineer José Zapate. This project is financed by West German firm Zycelon Kraftwerke and it is expected that the 250-metre tower will generate as much electric energy as produced by a thermal power station of average capacity.

PRESERVING COLOUR ON FILMS

After a period of five years the colour in colour films start fading, so how can they be preserved? According to the



Archaeological excavations form constant projects in Greece. Many "open-air" museums allow tourists and visitors to view the marvels of ancient Greece, which can hardly be experienced in the museums of foreign countries.

READING

A NEWSPAPER BY TV

The Japanese firm producing electronic devices has introduced a simple and cheap attachment making it possible to read a newspaper screened from the TV.

Pressing the appropriate button a viewer may choose a paper and the screen will create the image of a third of the newspaper page at once.



In the photos excavations at Pella, the ancient capital of Macedonia, which can hardly be experienced in the museums of foreign countries.

OF INTEREST

Diamonds in space

Marvin Ross, an American astronomer, from the University of California in Los Angeles, maintains that the surface of the planets Uran and Neptune situated in the periphery of the Solar system consists not of water, ammonia and methane in solid state, maintained by most scientists, but of metallic carbon or, more likely, crystalline carbon, i.e., diamonds. The magazine "Nature" (Britain) writes that it is rather difficult to acknowledge or reject this theory of Ross. We must wait a little and get the readings from the American probe Voyager-2.

which will reach the area of the Uran in 1986 and the Neptune—in 1989.

How to get rich quickly

A shop-keeper Ko Moung Wing, who lives in the Burmese city of Mandalay, has found a way of making money quickly. His shop is not far from the temple of Mahamyaovadi: sacred for all Buddhists, and visited by many pilgrims. Mr Ko sells them pigeons, Buddhist candles, say that there will be eternal bliss for those who practice good deeds, such as building temples, making donations to monasteries and monks, or selling birds free. The enterprising shop-keeper takes only three kyaits, or about 20 cents, for a bird, so he never lacks customers. His specially trained birds easily find their way home, only two blocks away from the temple. Mr Ko's ten-year-old son then returns them to his father's shop.

Happy Dad

John Knight of England is described as a super-dad. He is photographed with his two daughters and his grandson. The boy is the first grandson in the family. His mother, Mrs. Knight's oldest daughter, was 17. The other daughter is the photographer in the family's youngest. However, the picture does not include all the other 10 children of the Knight household. Mr. Knight says every new child brings him new happiness, he must be a very happy father, indeed.



FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

CIA'S SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES IN NICARAGUA

Managua qualifies US special services' impudent interference in Nicaragua a bitter defeat as a serious action. Valery Volkov writes in PRAVDA. He reports that the National Reconstruction government, upholding the Nicaraguan people's inalienable right to be the masters of their own future, demands that an end be put to the provocative scheming against Nicaragua.

Valery Volkov says that alarming reports are coming in Nicaragua about increased subversive activity there by agents of the CIA. Terrorists, hired by US special services and some Central American dictatorial regimes, infiltrate into that country and burn down homes, destroy crops and kill agrarian reform activists and teachers. The US espionage agency is in control over the former Somoza guards' military training in Honduras and in special camps in Florida. A secret plan for destabilizing the domestic situation in Nicaragua has become known to the Latin American public. Valery Volkov emphasizes that internal counterrevolution is acting in accordance with a scenario which was already tested in action during the preparation of the Israeli putsch in Chile. Reaction is seeking to provoke chaos, isolate Nicaragua from the outside world and create artificial difficulties in the population's supply with foodstuffs and prime necessities. The leaders of the anti-governmental alliance do not conceal the fact that they are coordinating their actions with Washington.

INTRIGUES AGAINST IRAN

NEW TIMES writes that a web of intrigues is being woven overseas against the republican Iran and that Washington continues to pursue toward Iran a hostile policy supported by subtle baiting.

The weekly says in a commentary in its New Year's issue that President Reagan cannot forgive to this day the former American administration its "sloveness" and "indecision" which, he says, made possible the overthrow of the shah's regime, that was friendly to the United States. President Reagan's proclaimed "tough policy" toward Iran shows a desire to take revenge sooner or later.

The United States is now ready to hurt any accusations, however unthinkable, at Iran.

Thus on December 10, the "Washington Post" came up with the sensational news that Tehran is about to take aim at the Soviet Union. As it is known with the "Pravda", the piece of a number of Middle East countries published in mid-December reports on an Iranian conspiracy to liquidate members of the government of certain Persian Gulf states. All these accusations undoubtedly conceal a desire to create the impression that Tehran is pursuing a perfidious foreign policy and to discredit it in international arena. This could play into Washington's hand as Washington is trying hard to destabilize and eventually bring down the Iranian Islamic regime headed by Ayatollah Khomeini.

At present American special services are actively loitering and aiming an invasion of Iran with the help of Iranian emigrants scattered around the world, the weekly says.

REACTIONS FROM 10 DOWNING STREET

In the SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA newspaper, Vladimir Shcherbin comments on the reaction from London of developments in Poland. Following the US President, the British premier made her statement in parliament on the developments in Poland. Mrs Thatcher sees the martial law in Poland as being introduced to extinguish the flame of freedom, beginning to spread in the country. This, she says, is a mistake of historical proportions.

The introduction of martial law has prevented evil war in Poland, and as it would appear, upset the British conservatives. It becomes clear they viewed these measures introduced by the Military Council of National Salvation as a historic error. London, it seems, holds its own views on how history should be made.

The Thatcher government is trying to justify its own repeated interference into the Polish crisis. For example, during their recent meetings in Zurich, Western bankers decided to deny Poland any further credits. Although they will refuse to extend these credits individually as private institutions, observers have few doubts that this is an orchestrated inter-governmental policy, urged on by London.

VIEWPOINT

Yuri BANDURA

CHINA: REPETITION OF THE PAST?

The process of decay found in the anti-imperialist thrust of the Chinese revolution, first started by Mao Zedong, is being undertaken by his successors. This is clearly illustrated by the fact that Peking is acting in line with the USA, NATO and Japan on major international issues, sometimes providing advice concerning policies in fighting the socialist community and the national liberation movement.

Simultaneously Peking leadership has reverting to the same "open door" policy that international economists once forcefully cultivated during semicolonial China. A recent session of the National People's Congress confirmed the country's policy of "boldly" attracting foreign capital into the Chinese economy.

The Peking leaders are eager

to use foreign capital, firstly to relieve the economic crisis and, secondly, to boost their military potential and modernize the army. Possibly Peking views this "dual role strategy" as wise policy, but it should not forget that funds from the USA, Japan and other nations are by no means indicative of the latter's sympathies towards China. They possess goals turning counter to the interests of the Chinese people, as well as the designs of the Peking leadership into the bargain. In fact they are striving to use Pekingese diplomacy, as a trump on the world scene restoring the "Chinese periphery" in world politics.

History abounds in examples of what foreign capital brought to China. The notorious "concession scramble" started in the late 19th century, when China

was offered loans, ended in fierce competition for Chinese territory and spheres of influence, and in 1916-1917 the USA and Japan locked horns over Chinese markets.

Japan offered China, among other things, the so-called "high-bar loans" purportedly for developing Chinese transport and communications and "reorganizing" the finance and credit system. In fact this money was used for political purposes—to create the pro-Japanese government of Duan Qirui. To the tune of Japanese banknotes, this government and the Japanese Terauchi cabinet concluded an agreement in May 1918 concerning the Japanese-Chinese military alliance against Russia, which set the scene for Japanese intervention in Siberia.

History repeats itself. Recent Japanese-Chinese ministerial-level talks in Tokyo ended in the signing of an intergovernmental agreement, under which Japan would provide China with a loan worth some 1,500 million dollars. Even before the arrival of the Chinese delegation many influential Japanese statesmen and businessmen opposed this new yen boost for China. They recollected the events during the beginning of 1981, when China unilaterally scrapped its contracts with Japanese firms for the delivery of equipment and materials worth 300,000 million yen. Can the Chinese be trusted? This is the question the Japanese business community asks itself, and still the Z. Suzuki government decided to meet Peking halfway.

The apparent reason for this is that Tokyo is confident of Peking's readiness to pay back, not with currency, then with political concessions. Peking is already doing this with its anti-Soviet line, blackmail and threats directed at the peoples of India, China, and the independent war against Afghanistan.

But China's self-styled friends are not demanding anything else from her: as they see it, their expenses on the "Chinese card" are paying off handsomely.

Round the Soviet Union

● THE INITIAL STAGE IS UNDER WAY FOR THE FAIZAL-PUMPING STATION, REACHING 160 METRES ABOVE THE WATER LEVEL OF THE PERMANA CANAL IN CENTRAL ASIA. The intention of the station is to irrigate lands in the foothills of the Tien Shan. As soon as construction work has been completed, the station will irrigate nearly 5,000 hectares. About 45,000 hectares of hilly lands are to be cultivated in the current five-year plan period.

● A THERAPEUTIC PREVENTION CLINIC FOR WORKERS AND EMPLOYEES HAS BEEN BUILT IN A PINE FOREST NEAR MINSK. Holiday-makers have at their disposal specialized rooms, mud-baths and a swimming pool. This year Byelorussia has spent about 45,000,000 roubles, nearly 6 million more than in the previous year, for health improvement purposes.

● THE INHABITANTS OF HILUMAA NAMED THE SERIES OF DRAWINGS "THE SEA ROUTES", PAINTED BY THE WELL-KNOWN ESTONIAN ARTIST OLEV SOANS, AS THE BEST ART WORKS OF THE YEAR. His works were displayed at an exhibition that opened on a small island in the coastal waters of the Gulf of Finland. The artist presented the islanders with one of his drawings, a map which reflected in symbolic form the history of navigation in Estonia.

● THE BEST LITHUANIAN ONCOLOGISTS CONSULT PEOPLE WHO COME TO VILNIUS FROM EVERYWHERE IN LITHUANIA. They give prophylactic consultations every Saturday at the new clinic of the Scientific Research Institute of Cancer. Unlike elsewhere, people can come here without a recommendation from the primary medical establishment. One may receive advice on how to avoid contacts with carcinogenic substances. If a visitor has symptoms of cancer, the doctor may send him to the diagnostic department for a thorough medical check-up.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

DO TREES GROW IN MARSH LAND?

Forestry specialists, scientists and designers speculate a great deal over the future of boggy lands in our country, writes V. Litvinov in the newspaper *LESNAYA PROMYSHLENNOST*. Specialists often advise that these areas should be eliminated as soon as possible, covering the occupied area with a network of canals. While others advocate for the reduction in the volume of land reclamation, demanding that part of the boggy lands should be left. This, they allege, is to preserve berry-beds keeping the number of animals and birds from diminishing. They add, however, that nothing will grow on such soils.

In an attempt to find the truth, the author of the article travelled to Karelia to see the marshes that had been drained long ago. Here he was shown good crops and fine forests, populated by people and revived trees, which formerly did not develop because of excessive moistening. On reclaimed areas a hectare of forests yields 200-300 cubic metres of timber. This is very rare for the North. There are also other facts proving that trees can flourish on drained lands. When digging canals in such places one often comes across stumps, roots, large trees, and the traces of luxuriant vegetation. This means that everything previously died as a result of swamping. But now the reduction of soil moisture will make it possible to restore the natural balance. There are vast marsh-land territories in Karelia, in fact more than 5 million hectares. This forms 37 per cent of state forest reserves. Such forest areas within these regions help considerably increase the raw timber resources in Karelia.

NOVEL CROWNS MODERN LITERATURE

The state of the novel is said to determine the state of literature as a whole, since only novels are capable

of bearing the weight of time. The novel contains all the complexities of ideas, problems, scorplings and truths, writes Yael Bykov, a renowned Byelorussian author, in *LITERATURNAYA GAZETA*.

This is probably true, as even recent literatures have placed the novel in a distinguished position, to say nothing about the national literatures whose history reaches back through the centuries. Soviet literature is a multinational literature containing many great works thanks to such trends as the Georgian novel, the Lithuanian novel and the Russian novel concerned with countrylife and war.

The nature of the novel and its capabilities to reflect the truth of the times have probably changed so that it becomes the most important trend in literature.

CLUBS FOR AMATEUR FICTION WRITERS

In the USSR there are many creative clubs whose members share the same passions, miniatures, plots, lyrics, music-enthusiasts, bibliophiles, book plate designers, etc., writes the magazine *TEKHNIKA-MOZHO*.

A recent club was formed for science amateur fiction writers. This spontaneous organization began in the mid-sixties and continued to the present day covering all the country from Kaliningrad to Khabarovsk.

People join the club firstly to establish contacts. They exchange ideas and study scientific fiction in different forms (literature, cinema, painting), contribute to its popularization and, lastly, reveal their own creative abilities.

Today dozens of such clubs are functioning in the Soviet Union. They are mainly established at educational institutes or libraries and sometimes attached to creative organizations and newspapers for youthful readers. There are purely book-lovers' clubs and also the more creative ones whose members are chiefly people who write or want to write science fiction stories.

There are also clubs with more complicated internal organization. The club Fant has been functioning for many years in Khabarovsk. It contains literary translation and lectures' sections, and the club members are engaged in lively correspondence with other associations in our country and abroad, regularly preparing lectures on fiction, and publishing scientific-fiction pages of Fant in a paper for younger readers.

PHYSICAL EXERCISE EQUALS LONG LIFE

L. Sukharebaky, D.Sc. (Medicine), comments upon health and longevity in the newspaper *SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA*.

The great scientist I. Mechnikov, bearing in mind the inexhaustible nature of internal reserves of an organism, wrote: "Death at an age of less than 150 is an unnatural death". Our organism has been created by Nature very reliably, with a large margin of safety and is designed for efficient and uninterrupted functioning for 150 years and more.

He continued that evolution both tailored the human organism to and required from it active physical work. A change in such a life-style is fraught with and consequences. Medical workers are alarmed at the increasing rate of cardiovascular and nervous diseases. This results from overloading the nervous system and at the same time reducing movements. Intellectual workers should remember this particularly well. It is necessary that each person is aware of this situation as the age of an individual lies in the age of his vessels. Only regular physical exercises training the muscles, vessels and the nervous system, giving them a constant charge of vigour, help sustain the organism and its ability to work. This connection between physical activity and life is expressed today in scientific formulas and not in abstract arguments. There can be no other way towards health and a creative long life, but through physical development.

A POWER BRIDGE SPANNING THE TAIGA

Finishing touches are being added to wire suspensions on the Khabarovsk-Komsomolsk-on-Amur power transmission line.

In recent years Komsomolsk-on-Amur, where new enterprises and residential districts grow up, found itself short of electric energy. This was especially needed in construction projects, timber industry complexes and settlements along the route of the eastern section of BAM. To switch Komsomolsk-on-Amur onto the single power grid of the Far East it was necessary to build a 400 km-long power transmission line over mountainous terrain and boggy lands.

Various technical novelties originated and were tested during this arduous task. For example, the supports for the power transmission lines were mounted on "floating" foundations. The metalwork was assembled at special sites and transported by powerful machines. In some areas builders even received help from helicopter crews. Finally, as a result, about 1,200 supports were placed and wire suspensions covered hundreds of kilometres.

Steel heavyweight for power turbines

Three steel smelting furnaces of the Izhor'sky Zavod association in Leningrad operated at full capacity, but only one ingot weighing 290 tonnes was cast.

Such ingots are needed for the construction of rotors for the one-million-kilowatt turbines of atomic and thermal power stations. Almost the whole staff of engineering workers participated in this smelt.

This super-heavyweight ingot is not destined for working purposes as scientists plan to cut it and test the metal quality. If the standards are met, the plant will begin the mass production of such ingots.



DRUGSTORE-MUSEUM

Just one of the 64 drugstores in medieval Lvov has a copper plate on its front door, bearing the inscription: "Drugstore-Museum" and the year of its founding, 1783. It contains ancient drugstore equipment and old recipes holding great artistic value. The interior was sumptuously painted in the first half of the 19th century with allegorical depictions of the elements: water, fire, earth and air.

Most of the exhibits include early documents collected from across the republic by the society working for the protection of nature and records tracing the development of the drugstore business from the Middle Ages to modern times.



Cruising in style

The maiden voyage of the 'Lev Tolstoy' car ferry, capable of transporting 400 passengers and 150 cars, has commenced.

Sailing from the port of Genoa, it is bound for the Italian ports of Genoa, the ferry offers attractive itineraries, air-

conditioned cabins, bars, a musical saloon, a wide-screen cinema, a swimming pool, sauna baths, and a souvenir shop. When its first passengers from the FRG board it in Genoa, it will begin its first cruise calling at ports in Spain, Portugal and North Africa.

Carpets from mountainous Khevsureti

An exhibition of Khevsureti carpets, distinguished for their original design and high standards of workmanship, has opened in Kazbegi. Apart from carpets the exhibits also include shawls - multicoloured knitted socks, decorative khudzhins - double bags thrown over the shoulder, and embroidered national dress.

Sheep's wool is the basic raw material used in making these articles. The designs with which they are decorated stem from the imagination of mountaineers

who are well acquainted with the severe nature of their native land. The centre for folk handicrafts which has opened in the Kazbegi district is the ninth such centre, forming part of the Solani association, to be organized in Georgia. The various items sold by Solani (it has put out 200 this year alone) are both beautiful and cheap and are great in demand. They include tea sets made from ceramics, colourful table-cloths, kitchen utensils, and pillow-cases embroidered in national style.

OF INTEREST

Who discovered permafrost

Research in Yakutia has revealed that in some parts permafrost is at least a kilometre and a half deep.

Curiously in the permafrost question was first displayed by 19th-century Russian travellers. More than three hundred years ago, Cosack leaders Semyon Dezhnev, Ivan Rebov and others intensively explored the

mystorious north-western part of the Russian Empire.

From the banks of the Lena River they reported to Moscow that "the earth here is always frozen and does not melt past the knee level in summer". Their reports were discovered in the archives by P. T. Shvetsov, a Corresponding Member of the USSR Academy of Sciences. Other documents show that the map who first discovered this natural phenomenon in Yakutia was named Yakov Sydelgov, also a Cosack.

Science and technology

HOW TO WEIGH A GLACIER

It took glaciologists of Soviet Kazakhstan several hours to "weigh" the 100 odd glaciers of the Jungarsky Ala-Tau Range. For this a radar mounted on a helicopter was used, probing thick eternal ice situated above the clouds.

The "echo" it reflected was recorded on tape. When this was analyzed a computer was able to determine the amount of freshwater preserved in each glacier. It turned out that each of them contained 10-15 million cubic metres of crystalline water.

The data obtained are important for the development of irrigated farmland in southern Kazakhstan, and help forecast climatic changes in this

area. The mass of mountain ice changes too depending on the weather. Therefore the results of weighing glaciers make it possible to assess in advance the forthcoming fluctuations in snow and glacial levels.

SPECTACLES WITHOUT GLASSES AND FRAMES

For the first time in the country the mass production of contact lenses has begun at the Izumytskiy optical-mechanical works outside Kharkov. Almost weightless and made of the finest plastic, they are easily fixed into the moist surface of the eye's retina and removed causing no discomfort. Such optics are indispensable for those who find conventional glasses inhibiting, such as divers, pilots and sportsmen.

After clinical tests specialists from the All-Union Research Institute of Eye Diseases highly approved the new lenses and recommended them for mass use.

DIVINATION: PAST AND PRESENT

Everybody knows the familiar scene at a stadium before the beginning of a football game, when the referee tosses a coin and the teams choose their goal, but few realize that an ancient form of divination, playing ball, has taken place.

The ritual of divination and the game encouraged them as a form of ball, at a distance as far as 100 metres, and possibly. Ethnographers of the Kostroma Local Lore Museum have collected and described quite a few types of New Year divinations preserved from the past. They are nearly all the remnants of ancient cults, although the meanings have long been forgotten, their romantic practices are kept, especially during the New Year festivities.

Seyakly, the 12-day period between Christmas and the Epiphany day (a day of the New Year recorded in the old calendar) was regarded as the most suitable time for divination. It was called "vodyanoy" (water) because, according to folklore, during this period the evil spirit, water, walks up on the roofs, participating in the people's deeds, just before and it will come to the roof-ridge, the bathhouse and any other premises, but a dwelling without icons.

A range of domestic articles such as kneading trough, frying-pan, bell, shoe, stocking, comb, lock, ring and, of course, the all-seeing mirror played a prophetic role in past divinations.

RESEARCH PROJECT BY AN INDIAN CHEMICAL ENGINEER

Charudatt Doshi, an Indian post-graduate student of the Oil and Chemistry Institute in Azerbaijan, a Soviet Caucasian republic, has developed an effective catalyst speeding up the processing of ethyl alcohol, a raw material developed for chemical and textile industries. The research project presents good prospects for Indian industry, and this discovery was much appreciated. The young chemical engineer was awarded

the degree of Candidate of Chemical Science for his achievement.

According to Professor Tokik Alkhasov, who supervised Doshi's paper, the subject-matter of the study is essential because there is in India excesses of ethyl, a by-product of sugar production. The newly-developed catalyst will help utilize ethyl as a raw material in the chemicals industry.



The Polish amateur film studio in Berlin recently won an international amateur film award in East Germany for its film "The Smile". This is a wise and imaginative piece reflecting the present and future, and the need for peace throughout the ages. The film will be shown in the FRG, and will run in Japan during April 1985.

In the photo: A group of Polish film-makers. Izolda PROKOVA

VIEWPOINT

AEROFLOT ON THE UPSURGE

Commenting on this is Boris PANYUKOV, Deputy Minister of the USSR Civil Aviation.

1981-85 will mark an important stage in Aeroflot history.

Aeroflot has been developing dynamically, having flown 433 million passengers in the first half of the last decade, 500 million passengers in its second half and it will have flown 550 million people by 1985. This means that every year Aeroflot must carry 110 million passengers to meet its quota. The 1981 year's quota of 100 million passengers was fulfilled.

Much attention has been paid of late to the development of air services linking the country's centre with remote areas, such as Siberia, the Extreme North and the Far East. Their share of Aeroflot's services amounts to one-third of the passenger and half of non-passenger operations. Non-stop services linking European USSR with Magadan, Norilsk, Petropavlovsk-on-Kamchatka, Putrapavlovsk-on-Kamchatka have a considerable amount of time. In such Kamchatka from Moscow one needs only eight hours. A total of 200 new services were inaugurated in the past five years.

More than 20 cities possess new air terminals, while another 15 airports have been planned for the period of 1981-1985. These airports include Chita, Samalalinsk, Nizhnyy and Groznyy.

Service quality depends both on the personnel and the technology used. Over the period 1976-80 Aeroflot replaced half of its planes. Two new planes are being introduced: the 350-seater IL-86 and the 120-seater YAK-42.

In addition to its passenger operations, Aeroflot renders some 100 services for its industrial users. Over the last five years it flew 14 million tonnes of mail and cargo, and surveyed from the air 32 million square kilometres of land, keeping a fire watch over 850 million hectares of forest and pasture areas.

Assembly operations involve aircraft technology on a wider scale. The IL-76 plane can lift up to 40 tonnes of equipment to any site while the Mi-10K has become the main helicopter-crane engaged in assembly operations. The Mi-26, capable of lifting 20 tonnes of cargo, presents an efficient solution to a high-capacity helicopter. It was first displayed at the Le Bourget exhibition in the summer of 1981.

Modern jets have enabled to increase the average passenger speed from 620 to 730 km per hour.

The aerobus will handle routes with the heaviest traffic, while the YAK-42 will soon replace the TU-134 and the AN-24 liners flying on the domestic routes. The Czechoslovak L-410 will become the main plane to serve local lines. We are now expecting another new plane, the 14-seater AN-28.

This of course does not mean that Aeroflot has solved all its problems. Specifically those of the reliability of flights. Yet despite these difficulties in this direction air traffic control systems are now being introduced together with other electronic facilities. Night is bad weather. The latter problem is especially critical for the Soviet Union which expands over many climatic zones.

Theatre, Cinema and TV Stars

ALEXANDER MIKHAILOV



He dreamed of the sea, but never thought he would appear in films. He sailed aboard ocean liners and never suspected his real element, the theatre and cinema, would soon engulf him. Landing ashore under the spell of the great

mystery of art, Mikhailov, then 19, dramatically changed his life and became an actor. Now with Moscow's Yermolova Theatre, Mikhailov appears in the plays, "I Am a Man", "Battalions Ask for Fire", rehearses new parts and gets constantly invited by film studios up and down the land.

Why is there such a demand for him by directors?

His most striking trait is the ability to project the image of the "real man"; he can be urbane, kind and tender, at the same time strong, brave, passionate and resolute. In a word, he can be equal to any role demanded of him. His temperament, techniques (incidentally, Mikhailov never lets stuntmen replace him in risky episodes), plus boundless appeal make up his popularity. Mikhailov is an expert at playing tragic roles, as seen during his performance of the Russian chess doyen, Alexander Alekhine in the film "Russia's White Snow". Nor is it over beyond his talent to take parts in sci-fi pictures and adventure films. The main thing for him is the material must be exciting, and if it is, he has no difficulty presenting the role.

In the recently completed film version of the satirical comedy "Easy Money" by the great Russian playwright Alexander Ostrovsky, Mikhailov plays the successful businessman Savva Vasilkov—he represents his first classic part, as normally he plays the characters from our times and from the future.

Yelena UVAROVA

Photo by Valery Plotnikov

'GOLDEN BOOK-81'

The album "English Art in the Hermitage", released by the Aurora Publishers of Leningrad, was acknowledged as the International "Golden Book-81".

This Soviet publication was unanimously awarded the gold medal and won the favour of the jury at this major creative competition, which took place in Italy. Colourful books from the world's leading publishing firms were entered into the contest. The best book of the year was

designed by Irina Plakhova. She is a graduate from the Moscow Painting Institute and has been working for 12 years in the largest Soviet publishing house specializing in the publication of various materials on art. Only recently Irina illustrated such popular albums as "Theatrical Portraits", "Artist Billbin", "Medals and Coins of the Peter the Great's Time", "The Treasures of the Russian Museum" and many others.

FESTIVAL IN THE PUSHKIN MUSEUM

The Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts in Moscow is holding the festival "December Evening Parties".

"In 1982, we celebrate 70 years of our museum," says the museum's curator Irina Antonova. "We have decided to mark it with a festival which would symbolize the profound connection between the art treasury and Russian culture."

An exhibition, "Russian Painters and Music", has been mounted in the "White Hall" tunnel to coincide with the "December Evening Parties". Visitors viewing the paintings and graphic sheets of the 19th and early 20th centuries can hear music by Russian composers of

the same years. The performers include Bolshoi's soloists Irina Arkhipova, Yevgeny Nesterenko, and the Borodin Quartet. Diverse in genres, the exhibition displays works of art from the Pushkin Museum itself, the Tretyakov Gallery, the Russian Museum from Leningrad, as well as contributions by museums from Kalinin and Riga, and by private collectors.

"We hope that 'December Evening Parties' will become a tradition," continued Irina Antonova. "We propose to open a thematic exhibition of West European paintings of the 18th century in the days of the next New Year. The music will include pieces by Mozart, Haydn and their contemporaries."



Performances by the Vainakh folk dance ensemble from the Chechen-Ingush ASSR lent unforgettable national colour to the "Russian Winter" festival. We have brought to Moscow a new programme, recently performed in Czechoslovakia, said the artistic director T. Blumbeev. It is based on ethnographical material, and provides good coverage of the customs and dances of our republic and the Caucasus as a whole.

PIECHA'S 25 YEARS ON STAGE

Edyta Piecha compiled her recent programme on the basis of requests from her audiences. The performances of the popular singer on the stage of the Otkrytsky grand concert hall in Leningrad was devoted to the 25th anniversary of her career as a variety artist.

Among Edyta Piecha's most popular songs are "A City of Childhood", "The Wreath of the Danube", and "Be as I Would Like You to Be". Among her songs there is one "Red Bus"—the first song recorded by the artist, then a young student of Leningrad University. The recording companies of many countries have produced dozens of records from her songs, and Melodia has released one of her latest recordings, a new album entitled "Not a Single Day Without a Song".

Edyta Piecha has travelled widely throughout the Soviet Union, from the Baltic Sea to the Pacific and has visited 19 foreign countries.

"I like my audiences and give them everything what my heart can yield," says the singer.

BALLET MUSEUM

A collection of costumes entitled "200 Years of Russian Ballet" holds pride of place in the world's first ever ballet museum, Dana Museum, which opened only recently in Stockholm. The collection, a gift from the USSR Ministry of Culture, features tutus and tunics which belonged to the many generations of Russian Ciselles.

LANDSCAPES, PORTRAITS, STILL LIVES

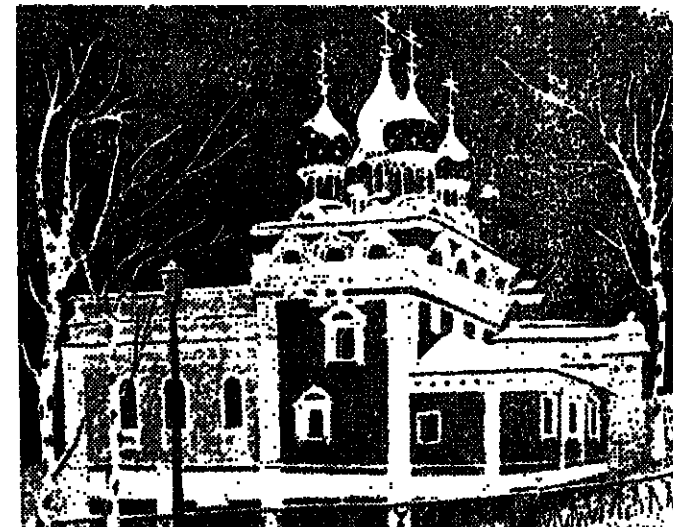
"Recollections of Moscow" is an exhibition of Zola Lagerkrantz' art now open in the very heart of Moscow—at 12 Razina Street, at the exhibition hall of the All-Russia Society for the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments.

Zola Lagerkrantz is a Russian-born Swede. When she comes to Moscow as a tourist, she hastens to make drawings of the parts of Moscow, and the city's monuments of history and culture she likes most. Her sketches have served as a basis for the paintings represented at the exhibition. On display here are portraits of Soviet art and science workers. Apart from landscapes and portraits she also paints still lifes. There are about 80 her works on display.

Zarionas, Desires and Girek. The items attracting popular attention are those belonging to the celebrated Dyagilev company, which arranged "Russian seasons" in Paris, and brought universal renown to Russian ballet.



Zola Lagerkrantz, "Bolshoi's soloist Vladimir Vasiliev and Yekaterina Maximova".



'Church of St. George on Pokrovskaya Hill' (now the exhibition hall of the All-Russia Society for the protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments where Lagerkrantz' pictures are on display).

WHAT'S ON!

January 5-8

THEATRES

Kremlins Palace of Congresses (Kremlins, 5) — Gala concert of the "Russian Winter" festival. 8 — Concert by Alexandrov Soviet Army Song and Dance Ensemble. Bolshoi Theatre performances: 6 — Adam, "Ciselle" (ballet).

Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq., 5) — Glinka, "Ivan Susanin" (opera). 6 — Correlli, Torelli, Rameau, "These Fascinating Sounds" (ballet). 7 — Mussorgsky, "Khovanshchina" (opera). 8 — Bizet, "Carmen" (opera).

Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.). 5 (mat) — Morozov, "Doctor Doolittle" (ballet). 5 (eve) — Mozart, "La finta giardiniera" (opera). 6 — Gershwin, "Porgy and Bess" (opera). 7 — Adam, Delibes, "Corseira" (ballet). 8 — Double-bill: Tchaikovsky, "Francesca da Rimini"; Khachaturian, "Gayane-Suite" (ballet).

FILMS

Lassie (USA).

An adventure film concerning the touching friendship between a boy and his dog.

Cinema: "Zvyozdy" (Prospect Vernadskogo), Metro Prospekt Vernadskogo.

Keep Your Eyes Open (Czech Film Studios, USSR).

The events occur in turbulent 20s.

Cinema: "Zaryadye" (L. Mikhovetskaya Embankment), Ploshchad Nogina.

CONCERT HALLS

Olimpiyskiy Sports Complex (Prospect Mira), 5. 6 — Fantasy-82, a fairy-tale programme for young people featuring a fairy-tale musical rock pop groups, Russian folk and horse races.

Palace of Sport, Leningrad Stadium (Luzhniki), 5, 8, 7. "A New Year Kolyadok" programme of popular music

THE PRESERVATION OF LONG-TERM ECONOMIC COOPERATION

A gay and festive mood reigns during the last days of the outgoing year. We experienced this feeling while dropping into Moscow's representative office of AEG Telefunken, a major West Germany engineering company.

The year of 1981 was very successful for AEG Telefunken in the USSR, said Peter Briggemann, head of the office, particularly thanks to the newly signed gas-pipes deal. This is more than an economic venture. Its long-range nature shows not only the reliability and stability of economic ties, but also reflects the mutual trust of both sides and a favourable trend in politics.

The AEG Telefunken actively participates in this project,

promoting the almost century-old traditions of economic cooperation with your country. We shall supply gas turbines for most of the compressor stations for the new pipeline. Earlier such equipment has already been supplied jointly with Mannesmann for the Soyuz gas pipeline reaching from Orenburg to the western border of the USSR. These turbines proved their worth. Now it is of prime importance that we continue our cooperation on a long-range and beneficial basis. We do not want and cannot replace politicians but industrialists on their part must participate in building trust and promoting the peaceful coexistence of peoples.

ON RECOMMENDATION OF UN

In 1981, the Soviet Union held 20 international seminars and courses for specialists from the developing countries. They were on the subjects on engineering, metallurgy, agriculture, health, and education. The United Nations believes that in these areas the Soviet Union has gathered valuable experi-

ence and has recommended it for distribution in many countries. These seminars and courses trained hundreds of people from nearly 30 Asian, African and Latin American countries, with this country assuming the upkeep and tuition of its guests.

A DIRECT LINE

A direct telephone communication link, between Vladivostok (Soviet Far East) and Tokyo, has been put into operation. The first to use the link was Pyotr Shchelok, chief engineer of the local communication management, USSR, and

Mr Fukuchi, Vice-President of the Japanese firm catering for international telephone communication. This new link shall make easier business and other contacts between the USSR and Japan.

PLANS FOR ENERGY VENTURES

For more than thirty years the Soviet Union and Finland have been successfully cooperating in the power industry. This cooperation first began at the end of the forties, when three small hydropower stations were jointly built on Soviet territory, and continued through 1981, marked by the powerful nuclear station, Lovi- sa-2 commissioned in Finland.

The working group of the standing intergovernmental Soviet-Finnish commission on economic cooperation is presently making plans for Soviet and Finnish specialists to work on energy and fuel saving methods, and for the designing and construction of thermal, nuclear and other power stations. Exports of energy from the USSR are also envisaged.

and drama theatre performers and actors, the Planet's Rhythms Dance Ensemble and Ballet on Ice.

EXHIBITIONS

Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts (12 Volzhskaya St.). An exhibition of works by the noted Soviet painter Robert Falk: drawings include water colours and gouaches painted in different genres. About 100 pictures by Falk drawn from the Tretyakov Gallery, the Russian Museum and from private collections are on display. Open daily, except Monday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. On Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Metro Kropotkinskaya, Trolleybuses 15, 31.

Polytechnical Museum (3/4 Novaya Sq.). "Nature and Creativity", an exhibition of toys made from quills, wood, straw and threads done by Moscow school pupils. Open daily, except Monday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. On Tuesday and Thursday, 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. Metro Dzerzhinskaya.

SPORTS

CYCLING
Krylatovskaya Cycling Track (Metro Molodyozhnaya). 5-6 —

Nationwide competition of racing cyclists from sports societies and clubs. Both days 4 p.m.

Taking part are candidates to the 1984 national Olympic team.

CHESS

Central USSR Chess Club (14 Gogolevsky Blvd.). 6—Moscow men's championship. 6 p.m.

Chess masters from Trud, Dynamo, Spartak, Burevestnik and other sports clubs are vying for the championship of the capital.

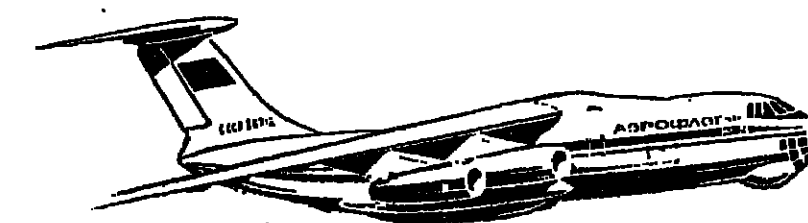
RACING

Hippodrome (22 Begovaya St.). 6 and 8—Racing and trotting. Both days at 6 p.m.

WEATHER

January 5-8

Moscow, city and region, after a relative warm period, temperatures will drop again to minus 23°-minus 27°C at night and to minus 17°-minus 22°C during the day. Snow at the beginning of the period. Wind 3 and NE.



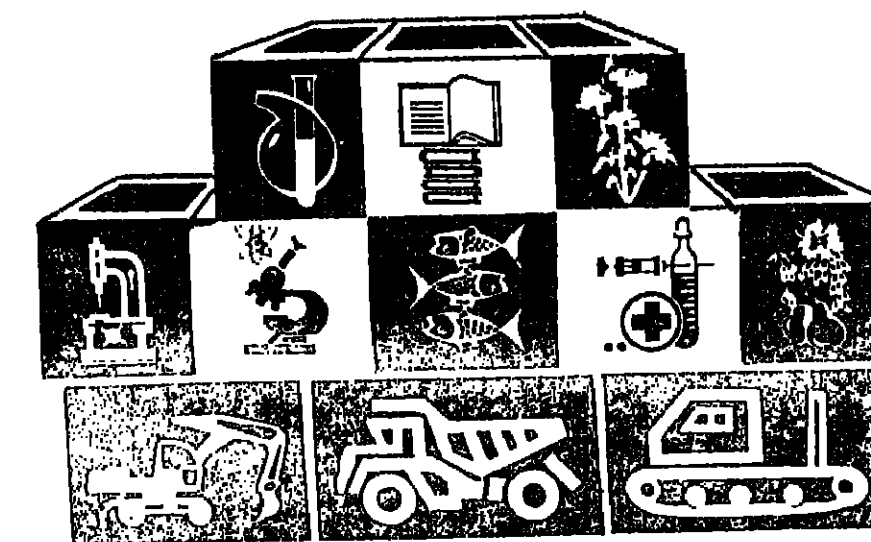
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АЭРОФЛОТ
Soviet airlines

SOVIET-INDIAN TRADE IN 1982

Trade between the Soviet Union and India will increase by more than ten per cent in 1982, amounting to over 32,000 million rupees, states the protocol signed in Delhi the other day.

Biateral trade growth in 1981 is estimated at approximately 15 per cent. Therefore there is an obvious development in trade between the two countries in keeping with the agree-

ment covering 1981-1985 and signed in Delhi, under which the volume of trade during five years is expected to increase by 50 to 100 per cent.

Under the new protocol, Indian exports to the USSR in 1982 will grow by 22 per cent over 1980. It envisages an increase in supplies of industrial goods and traditional Indian export items, such as cashew-nuts, tobacco, tea, leather ware and textiles.

This will be done in exchange for Soviet oil and oil products, machines, equipment, chemical goods, etc.

According to the Indian newspaper, "National Herald", trade contacts with the USSR relieved India's problems caused through oil pricing hikes. Today the goods exchanged by the two countries meet the needs of their economies.

Igor DANIEL

Intourist news

'RUSSIAN WINTER' IS FANTASTIC!

The "Russian Winter" festival of arts was described as "fantastic" by Radmila Kovaleva from the Yugoslav Travel agency Contourlet during her first visit to Moscow's winter season. My friends told me about the "Russian Winter" festival organized by Intourist, she says, but one can fully appreciate how marvellous it is only when you personally visit this country.

A merry festival was held in Moscow, Vladivostok, Novosibirsk and other cities. Trade fairs, New Year's games, dances, concerts by folk ensembles, and the sampling of Russian cuisine formed part of Intourist programmes. For the first time, a contest, "Best Russian Winter",

was held in Leningrad. Thousands of tourists from nearly 50 countries have visited the Soviet Union during the past few days.

Roger Gier of Switzerland is attending the "Russian Winter" festival in Moscow for the second time.

This year, I have brought along my wife, and she is full of admiration. What you come here, you forget all your troubles. You take part in a round dance by the Christmas tree, happy and carefree or children, he says. They will probably remember this unforgettable holiday for a long time.

I think we were particularly lucky, as we managed to see an opera at the famous Moscow Bolshoi.

Nadina Stefanides, of Greece, enjoys the folk tales.

I could not imagine it would be so interesting, she says. All around you in the midst of a snowy haze are jokes and merry music, and you are dashing along on a frolic sledge to the sounds of bells.

There is hardly any snow in my country, however it is not as cold here, as I was told. Perhaps this is just a matter of habit, as we feel the warmth of genuine Russian hospitality.